

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MANILA 07600 01 OF 02 190220Z

ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 SCA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INSE-00

/041 W

-----190340Z 075436 /66

R 190131Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9916

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USMISSION GENEVA

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 MANILA 7600

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE BOAT CASE REFUGEES: RECENT ARRIVALS

REF: (A) SINGAPORE 1914; (B) MANILA 4427, (C) HONG KONG 3331,

(D) HONG KONG 5620

1. SUMMARY. FOLLOWING MESSAGE REPORTS DETAILS ON RECENT ARRIVAL OF FOUR ADDITIONAL BOAT LOADS OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES (120 PERSONS), MAKING A TOTAL OF 7 BOATS (190 PERSONS) WHICH HAVE ARRIVED HERE IN 1977. THE TOTAL OF ARRIVALS DURING THE COMPARABLE PERIOD IN 1976 WAS 5 BOATS (125 PERSONS). IN TWO RECENT CASES RP HAS ACCEPTED REFUGEES WHO WERE EARLIER DENIED ENTRY BY OTHER COUNTRIES (JAPAN AND SINGAPORE). THIS POSITIVE GOP ATTITUDE CAN PROBABLY BE ATTRIBUTED TO EFFECTIVE EFFORTS OF LOCAL UNHCR REP AND GOP

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MANILA 07600 01 OF 02 190220Z

CONFIDENCE THAT STEADY OUTFLOW OF REFUGEES FROM RP TO PERMANENT RELOCATION ABROAD WILL CONTINUE. END SUMMARY.

2. MANILA "5" - A GROUP OF 5 REFUGEES FROM NHA TRANG ARRIVED IN PHILIPPINE WATERS IN A SMALL BOAT ON 4 APR AND WERE TAKEN ABOARD A PHILIPPINE FISHING TRAWLER WHICH CONTINUED ITS FISHING ACTIVITIES UNTIL 20 APR WHEN IT ARRIVED IN MANILA. THE

REFUGEES WERE ACCEPTED BY THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT AND WERE  
PLACED IN THE JOSE FABELLA CENTER.

3. LUBANG "13" - TWO VIETNAMESE BOATS, ONE CONTAINING  
3 REFUGEES AND THE SECOND WITH 10 REFUGEES, ARRIVED ON THE ISLAND  
OF LUBANG (SOUTHWEST OF MANILA) ON 22 APR AND 26 APR. THEY  
WERE FLOWN TO MANILA ON 6 MAY BY THE PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE AND  
WERE PLACED IN THE JOSE FABELLA CENTER.

4. SANTA DIVINA "60" - UNHCR REP BLATTER REPORTS THAT THE  
PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT HAS ACCEPTED THE 60 REFUGEES ABOARD THE  
SANTA DIVINA. REF "A" REPORTED THE PRESENCE OF THIS GROUP IN  
SINGAPORE. FROM THE SHIP'S AGENT, BLATTER LEARNED THAT THE  
SANTA DIVINA DEPARTED SINGAPORE WHEN IT BECAME APPARENT THAT  
GOS WOULD NOT ACCEPT THE REFUGEES. THE NEXT PORT OF CALL WAS  
BOAC WHICH IS LOCATED ON THE ISLAND OF MARINDUQUE  
(SOUTH OF LUZON). UPON LEARNINN THAT THE SANTA  
DIVINA WAS HEADED FOR THE PHILIPPINES, BLATTER SPOKE TO  
AMBASSADOR ROLANDO GARCIA OF THE PHILIPPINE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS ON 6 MAY AND REQUESTED THE GOP TO ACCEPT ALL OF THE  
REFUGEES. IN MAKING THE REQUEST BLATTER GAVE ONLY NORMAL  
ASSURANCES THAT UNHCR WOULD COVER COSTS OF CARE AND MAINTENANCE  
AND WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO HELP REFUGEES FIND COUNTRIES  
OF PERMANENT ASYLUM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE DECISION TO ACCEPT  
GROUP WAS MADE BY UNDERSECRETARY COLLANTES AND WAS RELAYED TO  
BLATTER ON 10 MAY. NO SPECIAL CONDITIONS WERE IMPOSTED BY GOP.  
UPON LEARNING THE FAVORABLE GOP DECISION, BLATTER TOOK STEPS TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MANILA 07600 02 OF 02 190301Z  
ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 PA-01 PRS-01  
USIA-06 SCA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INSE-00  
/041 W

-----190338Z 076094 /66

R 190131Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9917  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USMISSION GENEVA  
CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 MANILA 7600

DISCOURAGE THE DISEMBARKATION OF THE REFUGEES IN MARINDUQUE WHICH WOULD HAVE CREATED CONSIDERABLE ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS. AT HIS URGING, THE GROUP REMAINED ABOARD THE SANTA DIVINA WHICH MADE AN UNSCHEDULED STOP IN MANILA ON 12 MAY WHERE THEY WERE PERMITTED TO LAND AND WERE PLACED IN THE JOSE FABELLA CENTER. THE SANTA DIVINA FLIES THE PANAMANIAN FLAG, IS OWNED BY A JAPANESE SHIPPING COMPANY, HAS A FILIPINO MASTER, AND PHILIPPINE CREW.

5. MANILA "42" - BLATTER HAS REPORTED THAT AVIETNAMESE BOAT WITH 42 REFUGEES ARRIVED IN MANILA ON 16 MAY. IT IS REPORTED THAT THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES DEPARTED QUI NHON ON 7 MAY IN TWO BOATS. DURING THE VOTAGY ACROSS THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, ONE OF THE BOATS SUNK AND THE REFUGEES ABOARD WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE REMAINING BOAT. BLATTER CONFERRED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MANILA 07600 02 OF 02 190301Z

WITH GARCIA ON 17 MAY BUT NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN REACHED BY DFA CONCERNING THE GROUP ACCEPTANCE.

6. BLATTER REPORTS THAT AT LEAST 50 OF THE 60 REFUGEES ABOARD THE SANTA DIVINA CLAIM TO HAVE RELATIVES IN THE US WHICH WOULD QUALIFY THEM FOR CE/NP PROGRAM. REFUGEES IN THE MANILA "42" GROUP, HOWEVER, APPEAR TO BE MOSTLY FISHERMEN WHO HAVE FEW, IF ANY, RELATIVES IN THE US.

7. SISTER THELMA, USCC REP, HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN OBTAINING FORMS I-590 AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FROM REFUGEES AND IS FORWARDING ALL "PRIMA FACIE" ELIGIBLE CASES TO USCC HEADQUARTERS IN US FOR SPONSORSHIP AND EXECUTION OF FORMS I-591. EMBASSY PLANNING JOINT CON/INS OPERATION TO CONDUCT INTERVIEW OF ALL CASES REFERRED TO EMBASSY BY BLATTER.

8. COMMENT: FOR THE SECOND TIME IN TWO MONTHS, THE GOP HAS ACCEPTED VIETNAMESE BOAT CASE REFUGEES WHO HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY REFUSED PERMISSION TO LAND IN ANOTHER COUNTRY. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THE CASE OF THE FAIRSHIP REFUGEES (REF "B") WHO WERE LANDED HERE ON 25 MAY AFTER BEING DENIED ENTRY INTO JAPAN. ACCEPTANCE OF THE SANTA DIVINA "60" GROUP REPRESENTS FURTHER PRECEDENT IN THAT PREVIOUS REFUSAL WAS MADE BY AN ASEAN COUNTRY (SINGAPORE) AND INVOLVES A MUCH LARGER NUMBER OF REFUGEES. WHETHER OR NOT GOP DECISIONS ON THESE TWO CASE WERE MADE ON "AD HOC" BASIS OR REPRESENT MORE BASIC LIBERALIZATION OF GOP POLICY REMAINS TO BE SEEN. RECENT

POSITIVE GOP ATTITUDES CAN PROBABLY BE ATTRIBUTED TO (A) ENERGY AND  
DIPLOMACY OF UNHCR REP BLATTER AND (B) GOP CONFIDENCE THAT STEADY  
OUTFLOW OF REFUGEES FROM RP TO PERMANENT RELOCATION ABROAD  
(FRANCE, CANADA, US, ETC.) WILL CONTINUE. REFUGEE ARRIVALS THUS  
FAR THIS YEAR (7 BOATS, 190 PERSONS) RUNNING WELL AHEAD OF ARRIVALS  
DURING COMPARABLE PERIOD IN 1976 (5 BOATS, 125 PERSONS.)  
STULL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, MARINE TRANSPORTATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 19-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MANILA07600  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770177-0904  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MANILA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770540/aaaabhzx.tel  
**Line Count:** 176  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** f4365e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ORM  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 SINGAPORE 1914, 77 MANILA 4427, 77 HONG KONG 3331, 77 HONG KONG 5620  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2455608  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INDOCHINESE BOAT CASE REFUGEES: RECENT ARRIVALS  
**TAGS:** SREF, RP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f4365e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009